

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 31, 39, 44, 47, 61 and 63.

Please amend claims 24, 32, 40, 46, 53-55 and 62 as follows:

24. (Thrice Amended) An aqueous composition, comprising:

water;

a plurality of electrolytes dissolved in the water, the electrolytes having a concentration in the water of from about 256.4 mEq/L to about 324.5 mEq/L, and the electrolytes proportioned for dialysis of a patient; and

an iron complex dissolved in the water, the complex comprising one or more divalent or trivalent iron ions and one or more anions and having a molecular weight of less than about 50,000, the iron complex having a concentration in the water to provide an iron concentration of from about 1 to about 250 µg/dl.

32. (Four Times Amended) A method for making an aqueous composition useful as a dialysate, comprising, dissolving into water (i) a plurality of electrolytes in an amount effective to provide an electrolyte concentration in the water of from about 256.4 mEq/L to about 324.5 mEq/L, the electrolytes proportioned for dialysis of a patient and (ii) an iron complex comprising one or more divalent or trivalent iron ions and one or more anions and having a molecular weight of less than about 50,000 in an amount effective to provide an iron concentration in the water of from about 1 to about 250 µg/dl, to provide an aqueous composition.

40. (Thrice Amended) A method for making an aqueous composition useful as a dialysate, comprising:

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Serial No. 09/143,143

Attorney Docket 37011-6

Page 2 of 11

48

E

providing a first aqueous solution of electrolytes, the electrolytes having a concentration in the solution of from about 256.4 mEq/L to about 324.5 mEq/L and the electrolytes being proportioned for dialysis of a patient; and

introducing into the first solution an iron complex comprising one or more divalent or trivalent iron ions and one or more anions and having a molecular weight of less than about 50,000, to provide a second aqueous solution useful as a dialysate, the second aqueous solution having an iron concentration of from about 1 to about 250 µg/dl.

15 46. (Amended) An aqueous composition, comprising:

water;

a plurality of electrolytes dissolved in the water; and

an iron complex dissolved in the water, the complex comprising one or more divalent or trivalent iron ions and one or more anions and having a molecular weight of less than about 50,000;

wherein the electrolytes and the iron complex have concentrations in the water whereby the composition is effective for dilution to provide a dialysate having an electrolyte concentration of from about 256.4 mEq/L to about 324.5 mEq/L and an iron concentration of from about 1 to about 250 µg/dl.

21 53. (Amended) The composition in accordance with claim 15 46, wherein the electrolytes have a concentration in the water of from about 7692 mEq/L to about 12,980 mEq/L.

25 54. (Amended) A method for making an aqueous composition useful as a dialysate concentrate, comprising, dissolving into water (i) a plurality of electrolytes and (ii) an iron complex

comprising one or more divalent or trivalent iron ions and one or more anions and having a molecular weight of less than about 50,000, to provide an aqueous composition;

wherein the electrolytes and the iron complex have concentrations in the water whereby the composition is effective for dilution to provide a dialysate having an electrolyte concentration of from about 256.4 mEq/L to about 324.5 mEq/L and an iron concentration of from about 1 to about 250 µg/dl.

²³₅₅ (Amended) The method in accordance with claim ²²~~54~~, wherein the electrolytes have a concentration in the water of from about 7692 mEq/L to about 12,980 mEq/L and wherein the iron complex has a concentration in the water effective to provide an iron concentration in the water of from about 0.03 to about 10 mg/dl.

²⁹₆₂ (Amended) A method for making an aqueous composition useful as a dialysate concentrate, comprising:

providing a first aqueous solution of electrolytes, the electrolytes having a concentration in the solution of from about 7692 mEq/L to about 12,980 mEq/L; and

introducing into the first solution an iron complex comprising one or more divalent or trivalent iron ions and one or more anions and having a molecular weight of less than about 50,000, to provide a second aqueous solution useful as a dialysate concentrate, the second aqueous solution having an iron concentration of from about 0.03 to about 10 mg/dl.